

Application Number 09/658,356  
Amendment dated August 19, 2003  
Reply to Office Action dated May 19, 2003

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the following paragraph on page 8, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

31  
The sample metering system 22 may preferably be arranged along the lines of that shown in Figure 2, but may also have a variety of designs. The sample metering system 22 shown in Figure 2 includes a base 34 mounted for selective longitudinal movement on a horizontal rail 36, a horizontal drive mechanism (not shown), a vertical carriage or rack 38 coupled to a vertical drive mechanism 40 for selective vertical movement with respect to the base 34, and a proboscis 42 affixed to the vertical rack 38. Essentially, the proboscis 42 can move in at least two dimensions within a vertical plane defined by the rail 36. Such a metering control system 22 is described in, for example, United States Patent number 4,340,390.